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## ***Flavobacterium psychrophilum*, prevention and immune response**

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The fish pathogen *Flavobacterium psychrophilum* is one of the main causes of mortality in farmed rainbow trout and other salmonid fish. The disease following infection is often called bacterial coldwater disease (BCWD) in USA or rainbow trout fry syndrome (RTFS) in Europe. An infected farm can expect mortality rates around 50-60% in fry and 2-10% in juvenile fish within few weeks, which causes significant economical losses worldwide. Presently no commercial vaccine exists, and fish farmers control the disease with antibiotics.

The project is currently in its preliminary phase but the overall goal is to examine gene expression and location of transcription products in rainbow trout fry, in order to optimize vaccination or immune-stimulation. The presentation will focus on the future plans for the project, since no data have yet been obtained.